

PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA

NOVEMBER 25, 2008

SPECIAL MEETING

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners met this date in special session with the following members present: Chairman Billy E. Traylor, Commissioners Nathan Peters, Jr, Carmen L. McLemore, Warren J. Yeager, and Bill Williams.

Others present were: County Attorney Tim McFarland, Clerk of Circuit Court Rebecca L. Norris, Clerk Finance Officer Carla Hand, Deputy Clerk Kari Summers, Chief Administrator Don Butler, Deputy Administrator Lynn Lanier, Human Resource Director Denise Manuel, Grant Writer Towan Kopinsky, Planner David Richardson, Solid Waste Director Joe Danford, Public Works Director Gerald Shearer, Assistant Road Department Supervisor Chris Wood, and Sheriff Joe Nugent.

Chairman Traylor called the meeting to order at 5:22 p.m., E.T.

BUDGET/WORKFORCE

Chairman Traylor congratulated Commissioners McLemore, Williams and Yeager for their success in the elections. Chairman Traylor discussed the importance of being mindful of the 2008-2009 workforce and budget because both have been significantly reduced.

Assistant Road Department Superintendent Chris Wood informed the Board that the Road Department lost six employees in the last two years, and now has only eight available to work on the roads. Public Works Director Gerald Shearer stated that there are 14 bargaining unit employees, but only eight of them can be assigned to any work.

Commissioner McLemore stated that he will be contracting work out for Phase II of the Honeyville Park Project. Upon Commissioner Yeager's inquiry, Assistant Road Department Superintendent Chris Wood stated that there are approximately 13 bargaining unit employees in the Road Department. Upon Commissioner Yeager's inquiry, County Attorney McFarland stated that there are very specific job classifications for bargaining-unit employees. Chief Administrator Butler stated that the liberty to assign employees to different jobs is in the new Union Contract. Chairman Traylor discussed the importance of all departments staying within their budgets. Chief Administrator Butler discussed the effects of employees taking vacation on the work force of Public Works. Public Works Director Gerald Shearer stated that there are two major jobs coming up with the City, one being the clearing of the Sports Complex site and road work on 16th Street. Chief Administrator Butler stated that the County made an agreement with the City to split the work, and the City will be handling the cleanup. Commissioner Yeager stated that it was his understanding that this was a collaborative effort and the County and the City would be working to keep everything as close to 50/50 as possible. Commissioner Williams stated that the Board needs to remember that this is part of the Annexation Agreement with the City, and the Board has to honor their side of the contract. Chief Administrator Butler discussed the Courthouse Renovation Project and stated that the maintenance workers had been working in the Wewahitchka Courthouse for the last couple of weeks, but should be back in the County Courthouse soon.

There being no further business and upon motion by Commissioner Peters, the meeting did then adjourn at 5:50 p.m., E.T.

BILLY E. TRAYLOR
CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

REBECCA L. NORRIS
CLERK